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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/559,159	04/26/2000	Atsushi Ando	32626	1830

116 7590 07/31/2003

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EXAMINER

LONSBERRY, HUNTER B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2611

DATE MAILED: 07/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/559,159

Applicant(s)

ANDO ET AL.

Examiner

Hunter B. Lonsberry

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 April 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent 5,987,179 to Riek in view of U.S. Patent 5,973,755 to Gabriel.

Regarding claims 1 and 2, Riek discloses a storage device 26, which may be a hard disc, DVD or a memory card, on which MPEG compressed still images are stored, both MPEG video and stills can be reproduced from the same source utilizing additional p frames, each image may also have a number of enhancement pictures associated with it which are utilized to increase the quality of the image upon playback, the level of image quality is variable and dependant on the number of enhancement images, a display device 24 is utilized to playback video and stills (column 4, line 15-column 5, line 56, column 6, lines 7-16, 25-41, column 7, line 6-column 8, line 17). Riek does not disclose determining an area of a still picture in response to a manipulation from the user terminal and notifying the determined area to the moving picture coded means. Gabriel discloses an MPEG system in which a user may zoom in on a number of macroblocks, the coordinates of each macroblock is determined and stored in decoder memory (column 6, line 66-column 7, line 25). Therefore it would have been obvious to

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one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Riek to include the zoom function of Gabriel thereby enabling a user to see additional detail on an interesting image.

Regarding claims 3 and 6, Riek discloses a storage device 26, which may be a hard disc, DVD or a memory card, on which MPEG compressed still images are stored (column 4, line 15-column 5, line 56, column 6, lines 7-16, 25-41, column 7, line 6-column 8, line 17). Riek/Gabriel do not disclose transmitting audio along with MPEG information to a user terminal. The examiner takes official notice that audio may be part of an MPEG stream and transmitted to a user device. Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Riek/Gabriel to transmit audio along with the MPEG data thereby providing an audio track to accompany the video images.

Regarding claims 4 and 5, Riek discloses a storage device 26, which may be a hard disc, DVD or a memory card, on which MPEG compressed still images are stored, both MPEG video and stills can be reproduced from the same source utilizing additional p frames, each image may also have a number of enhancement pictures associated with it which are utilized to increase the quality of the image upon playback, the level of image quality is variable and dependant on the number of enhancement images, a display device 24 is utilized to playback video and stills (column 4, line 15-column 5, line 56, column 6, lines 7-16, 25-41, column 7, line 6-column 8, line 17). Riek inherently includes reproducing means for reproducing the contents data as Riek discloses playback the video and still images on display 24 (column 4, lines 15-34). Riek does not disclose determining an area of a still picture in response to a manipulation from the

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user terminal and notifying the determined area to the moving picture coded means.

Gabriel discloses an MPEG system in which a user may zoom in on a number of macroblocks, the coordinates of each macroblock is determined and stored in decoder memory (column 6, line 66-column 7, line 25). Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Riek to include the zoom function of Gabriel thereby enabling a user to see additional detail on an interesting image.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hunter B. Lonsberry whose telephone number is 703-305-3234. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday during normal business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile can be reached on 703-305-4380. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-5359 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

HBL
July 16, 2003


ANDREW FAILE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600